

## Japanese Language Immersion Camp (for high school students)

On Saturday, March 30 at Redmond High School (In Redmond, Washington) the Japanese Immersion Camp (for high school students) was held, and about 100 high school students of Japanese participated.



At the beginning of the event, Sam Kuyper, the (President of the Washington State Association of Teachers of Japanese and a Japanese Teacher at Redmond High School) who had a central role in opening this year's immersion camp, explained the concept and the rules of the immersion camp, afterwards Consul Hara gave a speech, then in the early portion of the event, classes were held to give instruction in various aspects of Japanese culture: *shodo* (Japanese calligraphy), *washoku* (Japanese cuisine), *wagashi* (Japanese pasteries), *Shorinji Kenpo*, *sado* (tea ceremony) and *kirie* (paper art cutting), kendo, and *wadaiko* (Japanese drumming). Also, Japanese language classes (in regional dialects, and younger generational speech) were held.



After everyone enjoyed lunch together, in the afternoon session, a “Japan Bowl” (quiz tournament) was held, followed by a sports session.



The high school students commented that, “In the *ikebana* class we learned not only to observe flower arrangements, but were also able to really experience how to arrange flowers as well,” and “I can’t really cook at all, but the teachers here taught me so assiduously, I was able to eat the food that I had prepared myself and this was a wonderful experience.”



We would like to take this opportunity to sincerely thank everyone who participated in this event.